



COPY OF AMENDED CLAIMS SHOWING CHANGES BEING MADE THERETO  
SERIAL NO. 08/964,180

2. (Amended) An image processing apparatus comprising:  
image input means for inputting one composition as a  
plurality of images taken with a different exposure;  
correction parameter setting means for setting correction  
5 parameters necessary to correct a brightness of at least one  
image of said plurality of images having a different exposure;  
brightness correcting means for correcting the brightness of  
said one image [at least one image of said plurality of images]  
in accordance with said set correction parameters;  
10 image display means for displaying [at least one image of  
the images] said one image corrected by said brightness  
[correction] correcting means and the other images of said  
plurality of images; and  
image synthesizing means for converting said one image and  
15 the other images of said plurality of images [estimating an  
amount of incident light obtained when said one input image is  
input based on said plurality of input images and said set  
correction parameters to convert said plurality of images whose  
brightness is corrected by said brightness correction means] to  
20 be placed in a displaying range of said image display means based  
on said set correction parameters so that the images displayed by

the image display means are displayed with almost the same brightness, thereby joining said plurality of images.

3. (Amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim [1 or] 2, wherein said [image correction] brightness correcting means corrects the image by changing the correction [parameter] parameters in accordance with differences in  
5 brightness between a plurality of images displayed by said image display means.

10. (Amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said [image correction] brightness correcting means corrects the image by changing an exposure ratio between a plurality of images, which is used as said correction [parameter]  
5 parameters, in accordance with [difference] differences in brightness between said plurality of images displayed by said image display means.

14. (Amended) An image processing method comprising:  
an image input step of inputting a plurality of images obtained by taking one composition at different exposures;  
a correction parameter setting step of setting [a]

5 . correction parameters [indispensable] for correcting the  
brightness of at least one of said plurality of images taken with  
different exposures;

an image correcting step of correcting the brightness of  
said at least one image in accordance with the set correction  
10 [parameter set] parameters;

an image displaying step of displaying at least one of the  
images corrected in the image correcting step; and

an image synthesizing step of combining said  
plurality of images corrected in brightness in the image  
15 correcting step, into one image to be displayed within a range of  
the [imaging] image display step, by inferring an amount of  
incident light obtained when said composition is input in the  
image input step, from said plurality of images which have been  
input and said correction [parameter] parameters which has been  
20 set.

20. (Amended) The image processing method according to  
claim [13 or] 14, wherein said image correcting step [is to  
correct] corrects the image by changing an exposure ratio between  
a plurality of images, which is used as said correction  
5 [parameter] parameters, in accordance with differences in

brightness between said plurality of images displayed in said image displaying step.

22. (Amended) A recording medium recording computer programs for correcting a plurality of images obtained by taking one composition with different exposures, to provide an image having a desired brightness, said recording medium comprising:

5        an image inputting program for inputting one composition in the form of a plurality of images photographed at different exposures;

      a correction parameter setting program for setting [a] correction parameters [indispensable] for correcting the  
10       brightness of at least one of said plurality [taken with images] of photographed images taken at different exposures;

      an image correcting program for correcting the brightness of said at least one image in accordance with the set correction [parameter set] parameters;

15       an image displaying program for displaying at least one of the images corrected in accordance with the image correcting program; and

      an image synthesizing program for combining said plurality of images corrected in brightness in accordance with said image  
20       correcting program, into one image to be displayed within a range

[of] in accordance with said imaging display program, by  
inferring an amount of incident light obtained when said  
composition is input in accordance with said image inputting  
program, from said plurality of images which have been input and  
25 said correction [parameter] parameters which [has] have been set.

28. (Amended) The recording medium according to claim [21  
or] 22, wherein said image correcting program is designed to  
correct the image by changing an exposure ratio between a  
plurality of images, which is used as said correction [parameter]  
5 parameters, in accordance with differences in brightness between  
said plurality of images displayed by using said image displaying  
program.